

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 30, 2007

Dear Homeowner:

Serving the communities

of ... Cardiff

Carmel Mountain

Carmel Valley

Del Mar

Del Mar Heights

Del Mar Mesa

Encinitas

Escondido

La Jolla

Leucadia Mira Mesa

Navajo

Olivenhain

Pacific Beach

Rancho Bernardo

Rancho Penasquitos

Sabre Springs

San Carlos

Scripps Ranch

Solana Beach

Tierrasanta

Torrey Hills

Torrey Pines

I am very sorry to hear of your tragic loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. San Diego is forever changed and we must work together to bring normalcy back to our region.

As you begin the rebuilding process, there are important steps that must be followed to properly file for assistance and clear property. It is important to remember that clearing land ahead of filing an insurance claim, which may require an insurance official to survey the property, may void insurance coverage. Additionally, when clearing land, precautions need to be taken. The County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health warns that hazardous materials and structural damage pose serious threats to your health and safety.

Before entering a damaged home, make sure gas and electricity are turned off by calling your local utilities company. When sifting through debris, use a face mask and spray the ash with a fine mist of water to limit the amount of dust particles inhaled. If you have a propane tank system, turn off valves and leave them closed until you contact the propane supplier to check the propane system. Be sure to avoid damaged or fallen power poles or lines and immediately report electrical damage to authorities.

If you have not done so already, please take time to visit one of the Local Assistance Centers (LAC) which provide disaster victims with one-stop assistance from a variety of government agencies, businesses, and charities (see link below). The Rancho Bernardo LAC is co-sponsored by the County of San Diego. There are also three county-run centers in the unincorporated areas for unincorporated residents. The county can assist you with property reassessments, property tax deferments, health and human services, and other related services. For more detailed information on the wildfire recovery process, please visit the County website at www.sdcountyrecovery.com/.

Our County Assessor will be writing to you regarding tax relief. Your property will be reassessed to reflect your loss. The reduced value will remain in effect until the property is rebuilt. If you rebuild in a like or similar manner, your amount due will not be increased. This tax relief is available for any property loss.

This is an extremely difficult time for you and your family. If there is anything I can do to further help your recovery process, please do not hesitate to call me at (619) 531-5533.

Sincerely,

Pam Slater-Price County Supervisor

Third District